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PENTAGON ORDERS INQUIRY ON GUARDS AT U.S. EMBASSIES

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WASHINGTON, March 28 — The Deputy Secretary of Defense said today that he had ordered a thorough investigation of the training and deployment Marine Corps security guards in the wake of allegations that two guards at the American Embassy in Moscow had cooperated with Soviet spies.

The official, William Howard Taft 4th said in an interview that so far no one beyond the two guards, who are under detention, had been disciplined as a result of the incident in Moscow, which was described by Reagan Administration officials as a severe breach in security at the embassy.

The Marine Corps said Friday that the two guards had allowed Soviet agents to spend hours roaming through some of the most sensitive sections of the embassy on "numerous occasions" last year.

Anger at the Embassy

In Moscow, a mixture of anger and depression has spread through the 29-man Marine contingent at the embassy as the allegations against their colleagues have put them in the spotlight. Among the questions being raised were whether young, inexperienced marines were more vulnerable to Soviet influence than other American representatives serving there. [Page 14.]

Mr. Taft ordered the investigation of procedures in a memorandum to Navy Secretary John F. Lehman Jr. The Marine Corps is part of the Department of the Navy.

The memorandum said: "Please have a full investigation undertaken immediately of the methods and procedures for the selection, training and supervision and security oversight of Marine Corps personnel assigned to guard duty with United States embassies outside the United States."

'Independent' of Discipline

"This investigation should be completely independent of any disciplinary or court martial proceedings presently under way in relation to such personnel," it said. The memorandum was drafted by the Defense Department's chief lawyer, H. Lawrence Garrett 3d.

The two Marine Corps guards sus-

pected of espionage, Cpl. Arnold Bracy, 21 years old, and Sgt. Clayton J. Lonetree, 25, are being held in military custody at Quantico, Va. The Marine Corps asserts that they worked as a team, with one serving as a lookout while the other turned off alarms as they were activated by Soviet intruders.

Administration officials said the guards had been separately recruited by Soviet women who worked in the embassy. The women seduced the guards, then introduced them to Soviet intelligence officers, the American officials said.

Diplomatic Chain of Command

Mr. Taft said marines working in American embassies abroad "do not report to the Commandant of the Marine Corps." In effect, they work for the American Ambassador in charge of the diplomatic post and take instructions from the embassy's security officer, who is a State Department employee.

Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger said today that "we're very, very distressed in every way at the fact that these Marine guards" had been accused of such serious offenses.

"We're not making any conclusions yet, but we are indeed going to investigate just as thoroughly as we can, and not just these two, but the whole system," Mr. Weinberger said in an interview broadcast by the Cable News Network. "We're going to look at the whole thing, the way they're chosen, the training and the way the Soviets will continually try to subvert them."

The embassy in Moscow is the command post for some of the Central Intelligence Agency's most sensitive intelligence-gathering operations.

Sergeant Lonetree has been charged with two counts of espionage among other charges, while Corporal Bracy is being held on suspicion of espionage. Sergeant Lonetree's lawyer has said that the sergeant denies the allegations.